

Shiloh Christian Institute Provides Discipline, Self-Worth

By Olembe Wickham
City News Editor

BRAMPTON, Ontario — "Spare the rod and spoil the child."

This Biblical phrase has rung throughout the ages as a message of what happens when discipline is not enforced by parents

tion," McHugh recounted. "It was like a passing phase for them."

The SCI enforces their own code of discipline by having their students wear a uniform. McHugh described how there are certain sanctions put in place to keep students on the straight and narrow.

However, McHugh emphasized that the

Shiloh Christian Institute was born. McHugh added that, when children are educated, they will be able to better deal with life's challenges.

"In fact, I just spoke to one (student) a few weeks ago. He was sent to (SCI) because he had a problem academically, and then, I spoke to him not very long ago, and he said that he is now in the advanced level in Grade 10," McHugh described.

The student's lowest mark is a B after his exposure to the nurturing environment at SCI.

The Shiloh Christian Institute is registered with the Board of Education, and is also a member of the Association of Christian Schools International. The school is currently running full-time from Kindergarten to Grade 8, but the principal states that, coming this September, Grade 9 will be added to the curriculum.

The institute started out as a tutoring school which Edward McHugh operated out of his home for three years before moving to the current location at the Bramalea Alliance Church last September.

"We came here with (approximately) 42

students, and then, we grew to 65 (from last June)," McHugh said. He added that Shiloh is in the midst of enrolling students for the academic term starting in September.

The founder added that his school also holds demonstration classes where parents watch what their children are learning from the school. "We ask them to enforce the same thing at home," he stated. "We have a very open connection with our parents."

McHugh praised *Pride* for its focus on positive role models in the African Canadian community.

Shiloh Christian Institute will be holding its first walkathon on Saturday, August 24 at Greenbriar Recreational Centre in Bramalea. The funds raised are intended for the school's building fund. The walkathon starts at 9 a.m. and will be 10 kilometers in length.

The personal philosophy McHugh practices is one which appears to be the key to the success of SCI students: "I feel that there is no child that cannot learn." □

NATIONAL NEWS



at Shiloh Christian Institute.

s", such as giving lines to write, benefit the student. "(It's) not lines which can be thought- ne elaborated.

revealed that some of the stu- who have come out of the system have returned to the and have excelled.

that seeing young, bright stu- ting their potential motivated mething about it. Thus, the

Community Lawyer Gets Bail For Murder Suspect

TORONTO, Ontario — Murder suspect Mohamed Rafeek Ali has been released on \$75,000 recognizance after a decision into his bail hearing was rendered at Whitby Court on Tuesday.

Ali is charged with first degree-murder in the death of his estranged wife Bibi Hajra Ali who was found bludgeoned to death in Markham on July 16

Kadir Baksh, Mr. Ali's lawyer, told *Pride* that the decision to grant bail on a first degree murder charge is significant be-

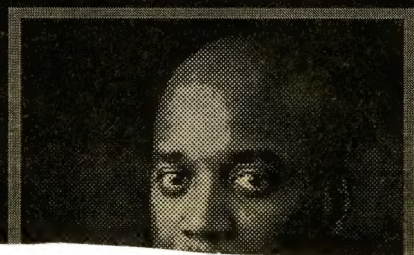
cause the onus is on the defence, not the prosecution, to give the judge solid reasons why bail should be granted.

Baksh stated that the decision to grant bail is significant to the African Canadian community because it shows that people of color can get bail and do not need to stay hidden or flee the country when charged.

Ali had gone missing after the murder and was urged by relatives to turn himself in, which he did on August 7. □

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Media Stereotypes Of Jamaicans Slammed

By Olembe Wickham
City News Editor

TORONTO, Ontario — The Jamaican Canadian Association (JCA) issued a terse statement last week condemning the recent media snafu, where a suspect in the Caribana shooting was mistakenly referred to as a Jamaican.

"The media's recent linking of Jamaica, with the individual allegedly responsible for the Caribana slaying, has renewed concerns in the Jamaican community that they are the subject of a subtle vilification campaign," the statement read.

Tyrone Edwards, suspected in the killing of Elrick Christian at the Caribana parade earlier this month, was reported to have been arrested in Jamaica.

However, it was discovered that the Edwards was actually arrested in Grenada. The media apologized for the error but some members of the Jamaican Canadian community believed that the damage had already been done.

Akwatu Khenti, executive director of the JCA, complained that the media has a pattern of portraying the African Canadian community, especially Jamaicans, in a negative fashion.

"It's not a simple case of an innocent mistake happening once," he stated. Khenti added that the mainstream print, television and radio media has made similar errors in the past.

He made reference to a recent *Toronto Star* letter that erroneously reported that Olympic gold medalist Donovan Bailey had stolen a car when, in fact, Bailey's car had been stolen.

"Whenever a crime is committed, 75% of the time the assumption is made that it's a Jamaican that committed the crime," he related. "What we are saying at the JCA is that we've had enough."

Khenti revealed that the JCA plans to continue its monitoring of how the mainstream media covers the African Canadian community. "We are going to be asking (mainstream media) for action to indicate that (they) really (are) really concerned about doing things differently," he elaborated.

Bromley Armstrong, a veteran community activist and

former newspaper publisher, agreed that the perception of Jamaicans in the media and society is a serious problem but that the media as an entity is not to blame.

"It appears to me that there are certain people within the media, I wouldn't think it's the media generally, but there are some people in the media that keep referring constantly whenever there is a crime it's (got) to be Jamaican," he elaborated.

Delores Lawrence, president of the African Canadian Entrepreneurs (ACE), noted that hiring more minority reporters will not necessarily solve the problem of the way the media views the African Canadian community.

"I think that the community needs to invite the (mainstream) media to a press conference, to really educate them to the fact that we are different and that we come from various islands and from various countries," she advised.

Armstrong agreed with this adding that the mainstream media's lack of knowledge about African Canadians as one reason for the way in which the community is reported on.

"(Many people think) everybody Black is from Jamaica and everybody from Jamaica is also Black, which is so

silly," he noted.

He recounted that, at several conferences with the media, the community has been asked to supply people to send them information. "The community has never followed up on this," Armstrong lamented.

Armstrong recognized that African Canadians are starting to get the representation in the media through articles sent and writers such as *Toronto Star* columnist Cecil Foster, who provide an African Canadian perspective.

Khenti believes that some reporters in the media do not have a sensitivity to the cultural nuances of the African Canadian community. "They should take it upon themselves to know the communities that they are reporting on," he said.

Armstrong advised media in the African Canadian community to stop going toe to toe with media

"I think all you are doing for these other papers is to give them publicity," he commented. "I forever used to tell this to *Contrast* (when) they used to have a running battle with the *Sun*."

He would prefer that instead of splashing the negative

things said about the community in the pages of *Pride* or *Share*, they should be encouraging the boycott of these stations.

"Stop listening to the racist stations, stop turning on the TV stations that are not sympathetic to our cause (and don't support the people who advertise with them," he urged.

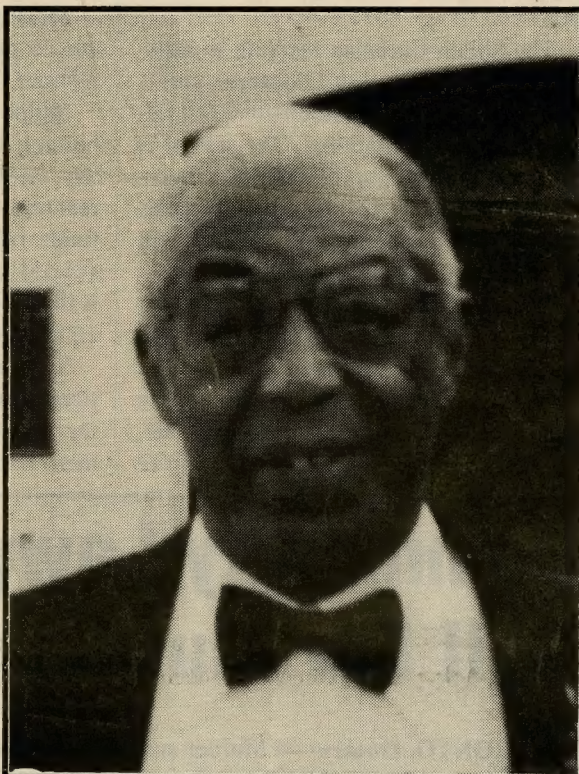
Armstrong acknowledged that there are a small segment of Jamaicans who commit crime but that the media tends to paint the whole community with one brush.

Lawrence agreed with the JCA's approach to monitor the media and figured that have a committee would be a way to end the media's portrayal of the Jamaican community.

"Because JCA is so big and because a lot of these attacks are being made on Jamaicans, we almost have to police the media almost on a daily basis to pick out this kind of stereotypical information and to get on it right away," she related.

In the JCA press release, JCA President Herman Stewart called on the entire African Canadian community to mobilize and write to the CRTC to complain about the portrayal of the community.

"Insignificant after-the-fact corrections have generally had little impact on damage cause by inflammatory reporting," he noted. "Prevention is the best solution." ☑



Bromley Armstrong